

Psalm 21:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thine hand shall find out all thine enemies: thy right hand shall find out those that hate thee.

Analysis

God's sovereign power to find and judge all enemies demonstrates His omniscience and omnipotence. The parallel structure ('hand'/'right hand') emphasizes completeness—no enemy escapes God's notice or power. Reformed theology sees this as an expression of God's justice: His wrath against sin is certain and exhaustive. This also points to Christ's future judgment when every knee shall bow (Phil. 2:10-11).

Historical Context

Kings relied on intelligence networks to identify enemies. This verse asserts that God needs no spies—His knowledge is perfect and His justice inescapable. For David, this was reassurance against conspirators and foreign threats.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does God's perfect knowledge of all evil bring you comfort and sobriety?
2. What does this verse teach about God's commitment to justice?

Interlinear Text

תִּמְצָא אַתָּה בְּדֶבֶר לְכָל אֹיבָךְ יְמִינְךָ תִּמְצָא אַתָּה
shall find out Thine hand all thine enemies thy right hand shall find out

H4672

H3027

H3605

H341

H3225

H4672

שְׁנָאָיו:

those that hate

H8130

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 10:10 (Parallel theme): As my hand hath found the kingdoms of the idols, and whose graven images did excel them of Jerusalem and of Samaria;

Revelation 19:15 (Parallel theme): And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

Psalms 18:1 (Parallel theme): I will love thee, O LORD, my strength.

Psalms 72:9 (Parallel theme): They that dwell in the wilderness shall bow before him; and his enemies shall lick the dust.

Psalms 2:9 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

1 Corinthians 15:25 (Parallel theme): For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

Luke 19:14 (Parallel theme): But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this man to reign over us.

Luke 19:27 (Parallel theme): But those mine enemies, which would not that I should reign over them, bring hither, and slay them before me.

1 Samuel 25:29 (Parallel theme): Yet a man is risen to pursue thee, and to seek thy soul: but the soul of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of life with the LORD thy God; and the souls of thine enemies, them shall he sling out, as out of the middle of a sling.

1 Samuel 31:3 (Parallel theme): And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was sore wounded of the archers.

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